

Mr. Weisberg:

Another one-subject letter. You will recall that David Welsh, in the famous Nov. 1966 Ramparts, expresses his surprise that Bill Turner on a "whirlwind" trip to Dallas could turn up five witnesses who not only knew Tippit, but saw him racing around at 1 o'clock. In retrospect, I am very surprised too. This is false information. Turner supposedly got it on a tip from David Lifton, who is, I believe the tunnel man, a theory in my opinion just a hop, skip, and jump from those of Mr. Geo. Thomson, and with the same charm. It contains a grain of truth, that tunnel, since it implies an upshot; but it makes nonsense of the truth and is utterly misleading.

Turner's "witnesses" also have charm. It turns out that the direction in which they saw Tippit go was the same as that of Jack Ruby's apartment. Obviously news most welcome to outside conspiracy theorists.

This ~~x~~ is my theme this week, it seems: we are being consciously and purposely misled from some queer sources. Take the Vaganov affair. He's a phony if there ever was one. Latvian dead eye dick, picks birds off from a moving car. And the coincidence by which he came to Salandria's attention is bewitching: routine credit report passing desk of a friend. The FHA can't get routine credit reports. I think Salandria is the father of the headsnap (with, I believe the cooperation of Life), a natural to plant a phony on. Kept him pretty busy, didn't it.

Holland is curiously accessible: he had the gall to tell Thompson he checked him out with Bill Decker. -Now there is Craig, whom I fervently hope is honest. However, we should not forget that Craig is a favorite of dissenters, for the sole reason that he did not tell the official story. But he came forward with his story before the official line, the lone assassin, had jelled. -He is now reported to have said that Weatherford was on Records Roof. Weatherford's story is that he ran over from 505 Main and got in the rr yard. #7 on Sheriff's radio reports immediately after 12:30:40 and says Weatherford and Walters are with him. Walters will not admit being anywhere near the railroad yard. "Other officers" went there. Allan Sweat puts Weatherford elsewhere. He says he ran over with Weatherford and before they got to the rr yard, Weatherford climbed in a window of the TSBD (while Wiseman went in the door!). Weatherford puts that much later and claims he climbed out a window over the loading dock. Perhaps Weatherford told Craig he was going up to the roof to watch the parade to explain his absence. Or perhaps we are experiencing still another effort to put Weatherford somewhere besides already behind the fence. We have got to have people on roofs if we are going to continue to miss the point. If Weatherford was on the roof, it was as a lookout.

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Julia Mercer. I am not saying that she is a plant on Garrison. But there is a possibility of it. If she witnessed what she said she witnessed then the event was staged. If she didn't witness it, then she was pre-designed to come forward with it. Now that she has turned up again, the effect has been, it seems, to confirm Garrison in his view that there was a shot from the knoll, or the front. I don't doubt it could have been Ruby driving the truck. But if it happened, it was still staged and meant to be noticed. You don't block traffic to take your weapon up to position. -I think we ought to keep in mind that Mercer, Bowers, Holland evidence was all turned over by the DSO: they could have put their affidavits in a hot Xerox. Instead they obligingly turn it all over to the Commission and thereby the public. There are many indications that Dallas was not happy when the front shot and the rifle conspiracy from knoll and building were squelched in favor of the lone assassin line. Walker wasn't happy either. These people had gone to a lot of work to ~~xxx~~ create the impression of a red rifle conspiracy. Now they were stuck with it and weren't a bit happy.

These are just speculations, except for the first and second paragraphs. That's a phony. And I don't like it. Turner has my rundown and wrote me a gingerly wrought letter about the Parallax Altgens. He said he couldn't see what significance it could have and that the flash of light was too close to the ground to be a muzzle flash. I hadn't said it was a muzzle flash. And it isn't close to the ground. I had Turner's letter on me when I had that accident fixed on me in Joplin on Sept. 5, 1967. Since then I have not been in touch with him and don't plan to be. I trust he is an honest front shotter but he must have a plant on him, if he is.

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